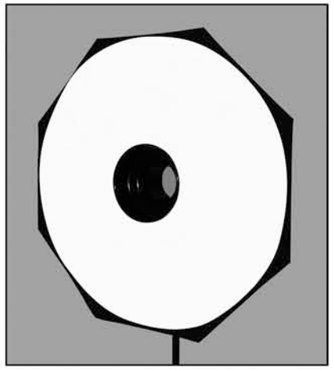
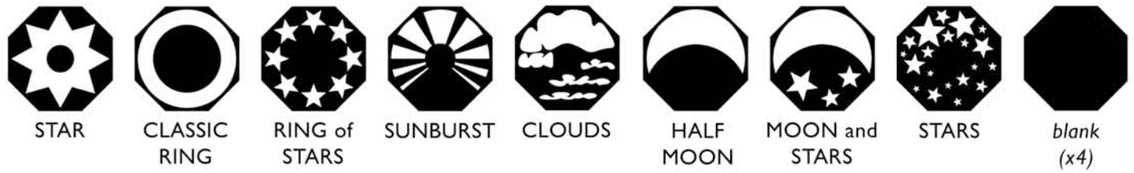


With all of the Moon Unit elements attached and in place, the result is a **soft, round, 30-inch aim-through light source**. If you remove the edge mask, it becomes an **aim-through 31-inch octabox**. If the diffuser fabric is removed, it becomes a **silver or gold umbrella-like source** for increased specularity. Finally, removing the center reflector yields an **intense center light source** surrounded by a dimmer 30-inch round or 31-inch octagonal halo of light, either diffused by the front fabric or bounced directly from the gold or silver surface. Using the Moon Unit without the center reflector may require the use of a suitable lens hood or black paper tube to prevent lens flare because the lens may "see" the edge of the diffuser fabric. Each configuration yields a different catchlight structure as well as different styles of light formation on the subject. The configurations all produce lighting effects that are concentric to the lens, with little discernable modeling or shadow on the subject.

The Moon Unit Mask Set

The Moon Unit Mask Set is an optional accessory available for the Moon Unit (sold separately by both AlienBees and White Lightning - please call us or visit us online for details!). The mask set consists of **twelve die-cut black paper masks** that fit **over the face** of the 30-inch Moon Unit - eight masks with predefined light patterns and four blank masks that the user can cut with scissors or a knife to create custom shapes. The illustrations below show the effect of the masks in place on the Moon Unit:



To use one of the masks from the set, you will need to have the **Moon Unit assembled and in place** on your ABR800 ringflash or Zeus RingMaster ringflash unit with the front diffusion panel and black edge mask on the unit.

Step One:
To attach a mask, first remove the ring reflector. Place the Reflector Lock in the **"UNLOCK"** position, then rotate the ring reflector and lift it out of the Moon Unit.

Step Two:
Align the center hole in the mask with the center hole in the diffuser fabric *(*except with the STAR mask)*. With the mask in position, replace the ring reflector to secure the center of the mask and return the Reflector Lock to the **"LOCK"** position.

Step Three:
Tuck the perimeter of the mask under the black, circle-forming edge mask. This will secure the perimeter of the mask.

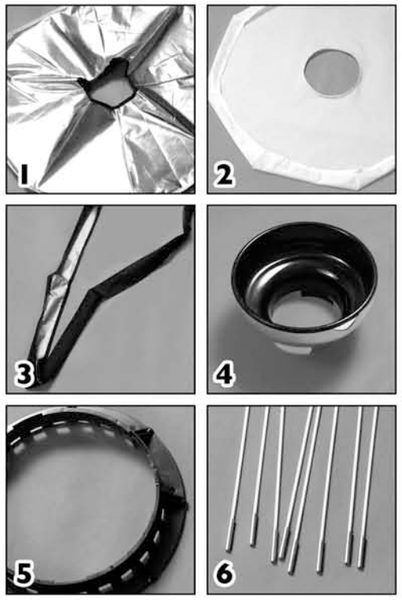
** When using the STAR mask, leave the ring reflector in place and line up the mask over the face of the Moon Unit then tuck the perimeter of the mask under the black, circle-forming edge mask.*

The masks may be rotated to the desired angle using the rotating Moon Unit speedring or by rotating the mask itself on the face of the Moon Unit. With the exception of STAR, RING OF STARS and CLASSIC RING, the masks are designed to produce a subtle shadow structure on the subject, similar to a main light with fill light. When rotating the masks, it is usually desirable to keep the shadows falling downward on human models to provide definition to the chin, nose and eye sockets.

theMOONUNIT
by paul c. buff

The **MU30 Moon Unit** is a **PAUL C. BUFF, INC.** product. Please call us if you need any assistance!
Toll Free 1-800-443-5542 (Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm, CST)

The **Moon Unit** is a highly versatile accessory designed for use with both the **AlienBees ABR800 Ringflash** and the **Zeus RingMaster** ringflash units. It is a softbox-like accessory that attaches to either ringflash unit with its own quick-release rotating speedring. The Moon Unit / Ringflash is extremely lightweight, compact and easy to assemble using the assembly instructions provided here. The provided speedring allows the Moon Unit to be attached to either ringflash in place of the standard ring reflector. The Moon Unit reflector is then attached to either ringflash unit in the center chamber, in place of the standard ringflash diffuser / front cover.



The Moon Unit arrives ready to assemble with **SIX PIECES**:

1 The Reversible Silver / Gold Backing
The reversible silver / gold backing allows you to build your Moon Unit with either the reflective silver or gold bounce side facing the inside of the unit.

2 The Front Diffusion Panel
The translucent white front diffusion panel fits over the frame of the Moon Unit to soften the light output in a similar fashion to a softbox.

3 The Opaque Black Diffusion Panel Mask Edge
The mask edge fits over the front diffusion panel, wrapped around the edges of the Moon Unit frame. The mask edge covers the corners of the octagonal shape to create a circular light source.

4 The Moon Unit Reflector
The Moon Unit reflector fits inside the center hole of the Moon Unit and attaches to your ringflash inside its center hole using the ringflash center chamber locking ledges. The reflector has a bright, reflective silver finish on the outside to bounce the light inside the Moon Unit with an opaque, black interior finish to block light from bouncing back inside the center hole and hitting your lens.

5 The Moon Unit Rotating Speedring
The Moon Unit rotating speedring is used to attach the Moon Unit to your ringflash using the ringflash outside locking ledges (fitting in place of the ringflash standard reflector over the outside face of the unit). The speedring additionally serves as the base connection point for building the Moon Unit frame using the provided rods.

6 The Moon Unit Rods
The Moon Unit arrives with eight rods that fit inside the triangular rod posts on the speedring and inside the rod pockets of the reversible silver / gold backing to form the frame of the unit.

Before attaching the Moon Unit to your ringflash, you must ensure that the ringflash unit is **TURNED OFF** and that the power cord is **UNPLUGGED** from the AC power source. Both the standard ringflash 10-inch reflector and the front cover / diffuser that arrived with your ringflash must be removed in order to mount the Moon Unit.



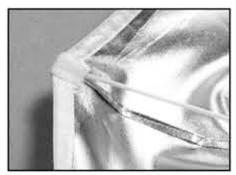



ASSEMBLING THE MOON UNIT

Step One:
Begin with the **reversible silver / gold backing** and choose the surface that you wish to have facing the inside for the internal bounce. Place the reversible backing on the floor in front of you with the chosen interior facing upwards, allowing the edges of the backing to curl inside.

Step Two:
Take the **rotating speedring** and position it over the center, black-trimmed hole of the reversible backing with the larger, flat side of the speedring facing down. You will notice that there are **eight triangular rod posts** equally distanced around the speedring's inner circle - line up these triangular posts with the stitched seams on the inside of the reversible backing.

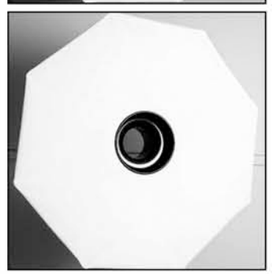

Step Three:
Take **one flexible rod** and place it inside one triangular rod post on the speedring. The side of the rod with the **silver cap** slides in the triangular post and should be pushed into place until it can be pushed no further. Next, take the opposite end of that rod and slide it into the corresponding fabric **rod pocket** on the inside edge of the reversible backing. Following the stitched seam of the backing from the speedring will lead you to the correct rod pocket.


Step Four:
On the opposite side of the speedring, repeat step three to insert the next rod into the opposite speedring rod post and its corresponding fabric rod pocket. The flexible rods will bend, bowing out to create the arched shape of the Moon Unit. They will fit snugly into the holes of the speedring and into the pockets, resting against the reversible fabric backing and running along the inner seams. It is easiest to begin in one corner and then move to the opposite side to place your next pole. You will **attach the remaining poles, working in opposites** until the frame is complete.

Step Five:
With the frame constructed, you are ready to attach the Moon Unit frame to your ringflash. First, turn the **Reflector Lock** on the ringflash back control panel to the left **"UNLOCK"** position. The Moon Unit speedring will attach to the ringflash in place of the standard ring reflector. Ensure that your ringflash is **turned off and unplugged** from the AC power source.



Step Five *continued*:
Line up the inside, open circle of the speedring with the circular face of the ringflash. The concave interior of the Moon Unit frame should be facing forward (the same direction that the ringflash faceplate is facing). Slide the speedring over the ringflash housing and begin to **rotate it around the housing**. Facing the ringflash, you will rotate the speedring counter-clockwise while pressing it in toward the ABR800 housing. As you rotate it, you will find a position where the speedring snaps further onto the ringflash housing. When you reach this point, rotate the speedring clockwise to engage the locating grooves (you may need to press it against the housing at this point in order to rotate it clockwise - it may snag a little). Once you have rotated the speedring clockwise a 1/4 turn or so, return the lock lever to the **"LOCK"** position. You should now be able to freely rotate the speedring around the housing about 1/3 of a turn before hitting the "stops" in either direction.

Note: To remove the speedring, you will move the lock lever on the ringflash to "UNLOCK" position. Rotate the speedring counter-clockwise while pulling it gently away from the housing. When it reaches the proper rotation it will simply lift away from the unit. ***Care should be taken while attaching and removing the speedring to avoid damage or breakage to the flashtubes or modeling lamps.***



Step Six:
Take the translucent white **front diffusion panel** and fit it over the frame of the Moon Unit. The panel has an outside lip that slides over the outside edges of the frame and should be pulled tight over the corners until the center hole lines up with the hole in the ringflash.

Step Seven:
To attach the reflector, the Reflector Lock will need to be in the **"UNLOCK"** position. When you place the reflector lock in the "UNLOCK" position, the Moon Unit speedring will still be in its correct position, but it will not be locked into this position. Should the speedring accidentally be moved out of position, simply slide it back into position before moving forward.



Place the reflector inside the center hole of the diffusion panel (with the black interior facing forward) and line up the inside ring of the reflector with the inside ring on the face of the ringflash. There are **three protruding ledges** positioned around the inside edge of the ringflash that correspond to the three raised panels on the reflector that each have a cut insert, making an "L" shape. To position the reflector, slide it inside the center hole of the ringflash allowing the three raised panels to fit naturally between the three ledges on the ringflash housing. Rotate the reflector around the center hole in the housing towards the raised ledges until they fit snugly inside the "L" gaps and will go no further. Return to the Reflector Lock and turn the knob to the "LOCK" position to lock the Moon Unit into place.

Step Eight:
Take the black **mask edge** and slide it over the outside edges of the diffusion panel. The interior, silver-lined side of the mask edge fits against the panel with the black exterior facing out. The mask edge shape matches the shape of the diffusion panel having stitched corners to fit over each corner of the octagonal Moon Unit frame.